

Message

From: CN=Richard Parkin/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US [CN=Richard Parkin/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US]
Sent: 10/20/2010 10:07:15 PM
To: CN=Michael Rylko/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;Thomas P Quinn [tquinn@u.washington.edu]; homas P Quinn [tquinn@u.washington.edu]
CC: CN=Michael Szerlog/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA
Subject: Re: Fw: small favor re Alaska mining contacts

Hello Dr. Quinn,

Michael Szerlog is Manager of our Aquatic Resources Unit which will be involved in any wetlands permitting of mining projects in the Bristol Bay watershed. His number is 206-553-0279. Thank you

Rick Parkin
U.S. EPA, Region 10
(206) 553-8574

From: Michael Rylko/R10/USEPA/US
To: Richard Parkin/R10/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 10/20/2010 09:12 AM
Subject: Fw: small favor re Alaska mining contacts

Rick, could you provide some direct feedback to Dr. Quinn or provide me advice on how to reply to his question and interest?
Thank you.

- Michael

----- Forwarded by Michael Rylko/R10/USEPA/US on 10/20/2010 08:53 AM -----

From: Thomas P Quinn <tquinn@u.washington.edu>
To: Michael Rylko/R10/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 10/19/2010 10:33 PM
Subject: small favor

Michael,

I am not sure whether we have met or not but you know my wife, Nonresponsive quite well. I am shamelessly taking advantage of this fact to ask whether you might be able to help me wind my way to the right person at EPA. As you may know, there are proposals to develop large areas of southwestern Alaska for hard-rock mining, most notably the Pebble Mine proposal in the land between the Kvichak and Nushagak watersheds. I am very familiar with this area, having been working in the Kivchak River system for some fraction of the summer since 1987.

The level of research and monitoring in this system is stunningly small, especially considering that Iliamna Lake is the largest lake in Alaska (over 2000 sq km), it has supported the largest runs of sockeye salmon in the world, and supports diverse populations of resident fishes and wildlife. Other than the consulting companies working for the Pebble Limited Partnership, there is essentially no investigation of the hydrology, ecology, and human use patterns of the streams that would be affected by the proposed mine. Our UW group has facilities (i.e., cabins, trucks, boats, generators, etc.) in Iliamna Village and also on an island in the eastern end of the lake, and we would be extremely interested in conducting research and monitoring that would be pertinent to the ecological threats and threats to the human communities posed by this proposed level of mining activity and associated infrastructure, roads, etc. We have been collecting data on other sorts of things, largely related to the population dynamics of sockeye salmon and related species.

We are thus in a strong position to conduct further work but do not now have data that would be most telling in making decisions about the mine.

So, my question to you is, can you help me figure out who within EPA I should speak to in order to see if there is a way for EPA to support work at this lake system to consider the ecological values of the waters that would be affected by the operation. I am sorry to impose on you but any help that you can give would be much appreciated,
thanks in advance for any leads,
Tom

Thomas Quinn, Professor
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